

March 14, 2005

To the House Health Policy Committee:

My name is Mary T. Ricketts I am currently a surgical technologist student at Oakland Community College in affiliation with William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak. When I attended our orientation I was shocked to find that there wasn't mandatory certification for the surgical technologist.

It seems to me that the area of surgery is very critical and that everyone that is in the operating room at the time of surgery should have some type of credentials, certification would help ensure the patients safety and ensure that there is a qualified individual in this role. Along with certification there would come the need for continuing education credits this would ensure that the surgical technologist education would be current.

As I am new in this field I feel that it is very important to have guidelines to adhere to, HB 4403 would provide those guidelines and ensure that only highly trained individuals would be involved in surgery. I appreciate your time and hope that this letter aids in your decision making process.

Sincerely,

Mary T. Ricketts
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